

# HEALTHCARE COUNCIL REGIONAL COVID-19 UPDATE

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The weekly COVID-19 Update has been a service provided by The Healthcare Council since the early days of pandemic in March 2020. Next week we will publish our final Covid Update. The pandemic is not 'over', but the country has made significant progress in the past few months as more and more Americans have been vaccinated and more and more of the country is opening up to 'business as usual.' We are grateful to our region's healthcare organizations - you have been a driving force throughout the pandemic and we appreciate all you have done to get us where we are today.



We continue to work with local organizations to help with supply needs through our [ShareSource](#) division and are currently working with our endorsed partner [Intralin](#) to provide us with much needed syringes. Please contact us directly at **301-731-4700** if there are ways in which we can help you get the supplies you need.

## Guidelines, Information, and Policies Updates

- On Tuesday, Inova Health System, with over 18,000 employees across the system, became the latest regional health system to announce it is requiring all employees to receive a Covid-19 vaccine. They join hospitals in Maryland and D.C. in making vaccines a requirement. [More on this here.](#)
- Revisiting a related story from a couple weeks ago, a Houston, TX-based hospital fired 153 employees on Tuesday after the employees refused to get vaccinated. [The Washington Post has the story here.](#)
- Officials in the U.S. warn that the COVID-19 variants, including the so-called Delta variant, could pose significant threats to Americans who have not been vaccinated. [Read more here.](#)
- After conceding that the country won't reach its July 4 vaccination goal, the White House announced a new objective: ensuring that 70 percent of Americans age 27 and up receive at least one vaccine dose by the end of the holiday weekend.
- [OSHA](#) published its emergency temporary standard for occupational exposure to COVID-19 in health care, meaning covered health care employers must comply with most provisions by July 6 and the rest by July 21. [More here.](#)

- [CMS](#) said it will continue to remain flexible in its approach to surveys if a hospital experiences a COVID-19 surge. The decision was requested by the [AHA](#), among others. You can read the full AHA letter with the request [here](#).
- Medicaid enrollment surged to a record high of more than 80 million during the COVID-19 pandemic, according to new federal data that shows sign-ups rose 14 percent in the year ending Jan. 31. One in 4 Americans is now on Medicaid, reflecting the program's role as a centerpiece of the U.S. health care system.
- In a new [study](#), National Institutes of Health researchers report that the prevalence of COVID-19 in the United States during spring and summer of 2020 far exceeded the known number of cases and that infection affected the country unevenly.

## Education, Learning, and Resources

- **AHA, Kaiser Permanente discussion on community-specific solutions to overcoming vaccine hesitancy, July 15, 1 pm:** AHA, its Society for Health Care Strategy and Market Development, and leaders from Kaiser will discuss the various archetypes of COVID-19 vaccine-hesitant populations and strategies for communicating with them based on their particular mindset and attitude. You can register by clicking [here](#).
- **Top 25 Women Leaders Gala, Friday, July 23, 2021:** Modern Healthcare's Top 25 Women Leaders biennial recognition program honors the top female healthcare executives influencing policy and care delivery models across the country. This program also highlights the continued need to nurture exceptional women leaders throughout healthcare. Join virtually on July 23, 2021. [Learn more](#) about this event.
- **AHA Leadership Summit, July 28-29:** This year's two-day, all-virtual Leadership Summit brings together senior hospital and health system leaders and clinicians, and trustees for high level, transformational discussions of strategies and innovative approaches for achieving sustainability, delivering greater value and health equity, creative partnerships, and redefined delivery models. Educational content will be available for on-demand viewing for three months following the conference. You can register by clicking [here](#).
- **The CDC** provides a host of updated training resources for healthcare professionals. Learn more [here](#).

## General Information and Data Sources

Resources for National and Regional Up-to-the-Minute Data and Information:

- [Johns Hopkins University global COVID-19 Tracker](#)
- Latest Case data for each state can be found at these websites:
  - [Maryland](#)
  - [Virginia](#)
  - [District of Columbia](#)
  - [West Virginia](#)
- State Hospital Association information can be found at these websites:
  - [Maryland Hospital Association](#)
  - [Virginia Hospital and Healthcare Association](#)
  - [DC Hospital Association](#)
  - [West Virginia Hospital Association](#)



